### **ORIGINAL COMPLAINT**

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

COMES NOW Shera Roane, hereinafter referred to as Plaintiff complaining against Allianceone Receivables Management, Inc. hereinafter referred to as Defendant and for cause of action would respectfully show unto the Court as follows:

### **NATURE OF THE ACTION AND JURISDICTION**

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual plaintiff for Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq. (hereinafter "FDCPA"), the Texas Debt Collection Practices Act, Chapter 392 (hereinafter "TDCPA") and the Texas Business and Commerce Code, Subchapter E, Chapter 17, (hereinafter "DTPA"), which prohibit debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair practices. Plaintiff seeks to recover

monetary damages for Defendant's violation of the FDCPA, the TDCPA and the DTPA and to have an Order or injunction issued by this Court preventing Defendant from continuing its behavior in violation of the FDCPA. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1337 and venue is proper before this Court as Plaintiff and/or Defendant reside in this District and/or the complained of actions occurred in this District. Service may be made upon Defendant in any other district in which it may be found pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(e)(2).

- 2. Plaintiff, Shera Roane, is a natural person residing in Dallas County.
- 3. Defendant, Allianceone Receivables Management, Inc. is a domestic corporation engaged in the business of collecting debts by use of the mails and telephone, and Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due another. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

### **FIRST COUNT**

4. At various and multiple times prior to the filing of the instant complaint, including within the one hundred and fifty days preceding the filing of this Complaint, Defendant contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect an alleged outstanding debt. Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA in multiple ways, including but not limited to:

- a. Engaging in conduct of which the natural consequence is to harass,
   oppress, or abuse, including using abusive language and causing
   Plaintiff's telephone to ring with intent to annoy, abuse, or harass
   (§1692(d);
- b. Failing to provide meaningful disclosure of Defendant's company's identity and address (§1692(d)(6);
- c. Overshadowing Plaintiff's right to dispute the debt during the initial 30 days after the first communication (§1692(g)).
- d. Yelling and being otherwise verbally abusive in connection with the collection of this alleged debt by calling Plaintiff a "liar" (§1692(d)).
- 5. As a result of the above violations of the FDCPA, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and emotional distress, and Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for Plaintiff's actual damages, statutory damages, and costs and attorney's fees.

## SECOND COUNT VIOLATION OF THE TEXAS DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 6. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference herein all prior paragraphs above.
- 7. Defendant violated the Texas Debt Collection Practices Act in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Causing Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously, or making repeated or continuous telephone calls, with the intent to harass Plaintiff at the called number in violation of Tex. Fin. Code §392.302(4);
- b. Placing telephone calls without disclosing the name of the individual making the call and with the intent to annoy, harass, or threaten Plaintiff in violation of Tex. Fin. Code §3920302(2);
- c. Using language intended to abuse the Plaintiff by calling Plaintiff a "liar" in violation of Tex. Fin. Code §392.302(1);
- Using false or deceptive means to collect the purported debt or obtain d. information about the Plaintiff in violation of Tex. Fin. Code §392.301(19); and
- e. Was otherwise deceptive and failed to comply with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- 8. As a result of Defendant's violations as aforesaid, Plaintiff suffered a substantial disruption in her daily routine thus warranting an award of emotional and/or mental anguish damages.
- 9. Defendant's aforementioned statutory violations also constitute an invasion of Plaintiff's right to privacy, causing additional injury to Plaintiff's feelings, mental anguish and distress.

10. As a result of the above statutory violations and invasion of privacy, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer injury to Plaintiff's feelings, personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and emotional distress, and Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for Plaintiff's actual damages, exemplary damages, statutory damages, and costs and attorney's fees.

# THIRD COUNT VIOLATION OF THE TEXAS DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT

- 11. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference herein all prior paragraphs above.
- 12. This suit is brought, in part, under the authority of Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 17.41 et seq., commonly known as the Deceptive Trade Practices and Plaintiff Protection Act and cited in this petition as the "DTPA".
- 13. Defendant was given notice in writing of the claims made in this Petition more than sixty days before this suit was filed in the manner and form required by DTPA §17.505 (a).
- 14. Defendant made numerous material misrepresentations in an attempt to collect the purported debt as detailed above.
- 15. Defendant knew or should have known that its representations were false and/or acted in reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of its representations.
- 16. Defendant's actions were done maliciously and in willful, wanton and

reckless disregard for the rights of the Plaintiff.

- 17. Defendant's actions as detailed above constitute a violation of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act, Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 17.41.
- 18. The conduct described above has been and is a producing and proximate cause of damages to Plaintiff. Plaintiff's damages include: Statutory damages of at least \$100.00 per violation, actual/economic damages, emotional and/or mental anguish damages, exemplary/punitive damages, and Plaintiff's attorneys' fees and costs.
- 19. Additionally, Plaintiff seeks an award of discretionary additional damages in an amount not to exceed three times the amount of economic damages if Defendant's conduct is found to have been committed knowingly; or an amount not to exceed three times the amount of economic and mental anguish damages if Defendant's conduct is found to have been committed intentionally.
- 20. Plaintiff seeks reasonable and necessary attorney's fees in this case through the time judgment is entered and for any post-trial or post-judgment appeals, to be detailed through a statement of services submitted at the appropriate time.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff requests that Defendant be cited to appear and answer herein and upon final hearing hereof, Plaintiff has judgment of and against Defendant as follows:

- a declaratory judgment be entered that Defendant's conduct violated the (a) FDCPA;
- an award of actual damages; (b)
- (c) an award of statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k;
- an award of costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § (d) 1692k; and,
- (e) a declaratory judgment be entered that Defendant's conduct violated the Texas deceptive Trade Practices Act:
- (f) an award for all actual damages, exemplary damages, emotional/mental anguish damages and all statutory additional damages, all attorneys fees, costs of court, and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest at the highest lawful rates.
- (g) seeks an award of discretionary additional damages in an amount not to exceed three times the amount of economic damages if Defendant's conduct is found to have been committed knowingly; or an amount not to exceed three times the amount of economic and mental anguish damages if Defendant's conduct is found to have been committed intentionally.
- (h) such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Landgraf

Texas State Bar # 00784702 Attorney in Charge for Plaintiff

WEISBERG & MEYERS, L.L.C. 4510 Bull Creek Road Austin, TX 78731

Phone: (512) 436-0036 ext. 116 Facsimile: (866) 317-2674

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on January 30th, 2008, I filed the foregoing document with the clerk of the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, by depositing same with the United States Postal Service.

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CUMCTOVERISHOEDI/08 Page 9 of 9 PageID 9

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. The form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating

the civil docket sheet. I SELT	NSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVE	RSE OF THE FORM.)			
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CONTRACT	TOR		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY		1 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 400 State Reapportionment
1 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product	362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice	☐ 620 Other Food & Drug ☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure	☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking
140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability	☐ 365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881		☐ 450 Commerce
150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	and the second s	Product Liability	630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	460 Deportation
1 151 Medicare Act	☐ 330 Federal Employers'	☐ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product	☐ 640 R.R. & Truck☐ 650 Airline Regs.	☐ 820 Copyrights ☐ 830 Patent	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	Liability	☐ 660 Occupational	340 Trademark	☐ 480 Consumer Credit
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160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	Property Damage	Act	☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	☐ 875 Customer Challenge
190 Other Contract	Product Liability	☐ 385 Property Damage	720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410
195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise	☐ 360 Other Personal	Product Liability	☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	890 Other Statutory Actions
REAL PROPERTY	Injury CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITION	& Disclosure Act S □ 740 Railway Labor Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS	<ul> <li>□ 891 Agricultural Acts</li> <li>□ 892 Economic Stabilization Act</li> </ul>
J 210 Land Condemnation	☐ 441 Voting	☐ 510 Motions to Vacate		□ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	☐ 893 Environmental Matters
220 Foreclosure	☐ 442 Employment	Sentence	☐ 791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)	☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 443 Housing/	Habeas Corpus:	Security Act	871 IRS—Third Party	☐ 895 Freedom of Information
3 240 Torts to Land 3 245 Tort Product Liability		☐ 530 General ☐ 535 Death Penalty		26 USC 7609	Act
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	Employment	550 Civil Rights	☐ 463 Habeas Corpus -		to Justice
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VII. REQUESTED IN	CHECK IF THIS	IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only	if demanded in complaint:
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P.	23		JURY DEMAND:	Yes 🗆 No
VIII. RELATED CAS					
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